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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/855,547	05/16/2001	Ryoichi Sato	914-129	9740

7590 03/12/2004

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2004

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/855,547

Applicant(s)

SATO ET AL.

Examiner

Namitha Pillai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 5/16/01 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1 and 4-5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by JP

Publication No. 08-305531 (Nishiura Mitsuru), herein referred to as Mitsuru.

Referring to claim 1, Mitsuru discloses an agent display apparatus displaying a personified agent for making the agent selectively perform a process (Detailed Description, page 1, paragraph 8). Mitsuru also discloses a first interface controlling display of the agent and inputting a request from a user (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraph 42). Mitsuru discloses searching for an action script describing a procedure of controlling the first interface in accordance with the request input from the first interface (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 43 and 44). Mitsuru also discloses executing the action script searched and found by the agent manager (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraph 44).

Referring to claim 2, Mitsuru discloses including a demonstrating portion controlling the first interface and making the agent demonstrate an operation procedure (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraph 43 and 44).

Referring to claim 3, Mitsuru discloses that the first interface includes an agent displaying portion controlling an operation with a voice outputting portion outputting a voice

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output from the agent and a voice inputting portion inputting a voice of the user for extracting the request (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 42 and 43).

Referring to claim 4, Mitsuru discloses a second interface controlling an application program, wherein the executing portion includes a control procedure executing portion executing a procedure of cooperatively controlling the first and second interfaces described in the action script, the first interface represented as the agent and the second interface presented as the CD playback interface, wherein the agent and the CD interface both work cooperatively (Detailed Description, page 3, paragraph 25).

Referring to claim 5, Mitsuru discloses accessing an electronic broadcast program list, this information being represented through the CD information that is disclosed, each CD representing a broadcast program (Detailed Description, page 4, paragraph 27). Mitsuru discloses extracting a program interesting the user with reference to the broadcast program list accessed by the accessing portion (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraph 43). Mitsuru also discloses including a controlling portion controlling the second interface for making the application program televise the program extracted by the extracting portion (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 43-45).

Referring to claims 6 and 12, Mitsuru discloses acquiring and storing information on a program viewed by the user from the broadcast program list accessed by the accessing portion, and a program extracting portion extracting a keyword from the information on the program stored in the storing portion for extracting a program which interests said user in accordance with the extracted keyword with reference to the broadcast program list (Detailed Description, page 4, paragraph 27), wherein the unique CD identifier represents the current program along

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with the playback AP name which is the keyword that is used for extracting programming information, wherein this extraction process includes playing back the CD broadcast information.

Referring to claims 7 and 13, Mitsuru discloses an agent display method displaying a personified agent for making the agent selectively perform a process (Detailed Description, page 1, paragraph 8). Mitsuru also discloses controlling display of the agent and inputting a request from a user (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraph 42). Mitsuru discloses searching for an action script describing a procedure of controlling the display of the agent in accordance with the input request and executing the searched action script (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 43 and 44).

Referring to claims 8 and 14, Mitsuru discloses that executing the action script includes the step of making the agent demonstrate an operation procedure (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraph 43 and 44).

Referring to claims 9 and 15, Mitsuru discloses controlling an operation of the agent for display, outputting a voice produced by the agent and inputting a voice from the user and extracting the request (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 42 and 43).

Referring to claims 10 and 16, Mitsuru discloses executing the action script including the step of controlling an application program (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 44 and 45).

Referring to claims 11 and 17, Mitsuru discloses accessing an electronic broadcast program list, this information being represented through the CD information that is disclosed, each CD representing a broadcast program (Detailed Description, page 4, paragraph 27).

Mitsuru also disclose extracting a program which interests the user with reference to the

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accessed broadcast program list, wherein the step of executing the action script includes the step of making the application program televise the extracted program (Detailed Description, page 5, paragraphs 43-45).

Referring to claim 18, Mitsuru discloses acquiring information on a program viewed by the user from the accessed broadcast program list, and extracting a keyword from the information on the accessed program for extracting a program which interests the user in accordance with the extracted keyword with reference to the broadcast program list, this information being represented through the CD information that is disclosed, each CD representing a broadcast program (Detailed Description, page 4, paragraph 27).

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the method for displaying an agent for performing a process in a user interface.

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, central FAX number (703) 872-9306 may be used. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

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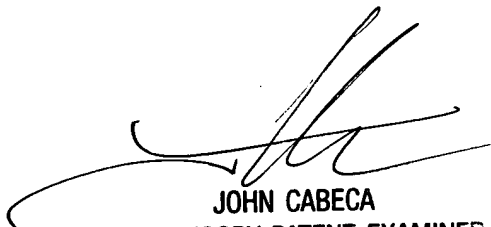
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (703) 305-7691. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116.

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
March 5, 2004



JOHN CABECA
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